

CLAIMS

1. A process for the preparation of a dry powder inhaler which comprises exposing, during manufacture, a dry powder inhaler optionally filled with a powder formulation, or one or 5 more components thereof, to a gas at low pressure.
2. A process according to claim 1 where the gas is air.
3. A process according to claim 1 or 2 where the pressure is less than 200 mbar.
- 10 4. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 3 where the pressure is less than 100 mbar.
5. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 4 where the inhaler is Turbuhaler.
- 15 6. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the powder formulation comprises one or more drugs and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients.
- 20 7. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drug is mometasone (e.g. as furoate), ciclesonide, zoticasone, flumoxonide, fluticasone (e.g. as 17-propionate) budesonide, salmeterol (e.g. as xinafoate) and formoterol (e.g. as fumarate dihydrate) or tiotropium bromide.
- 25 8. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drugs are combinations of fluticasone propionate/salmeterol xinafoate, ciclesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate, mometasone furoate/formoterol fumarate dihydrate, budesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate, fluticasone propionate/formoterol fumarate dihydrate and tiotropium bromide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate.
- 30 9. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drugs are combinations of, budesonide and formoterol fumarate dihydrate.

10. A process for reducing electrostatic charges from one or more inhaler components, or a complete inhaler, optionally filled with a powder formulation, the process comprising:

- 5 i) placing one or more inhaler components, or a complete inhaler, optionally filled with a powder formulation in a chamber,
- ii) reducing the pressure of gas in the chamber,
- iii) returning the pressure to atmospheric pressure
- iv) optionally repeating steps ii) and iii)

10 11. A dry powder inhaler prepared according to the process of any one of claims 1 to 10.